

draft principles, including principles to regulate consent and participation. On this latter point, the two countries believe that the most effective way to ensure an orderly development of this technology, and to avoid its abuse, is through international cooperation complemented by principles requiring the consent of receiving states to the establishment of direct television broadcasting systems which are intended to broadcast specifically at those States and the right of these States to participate in activities related to the setting up of such systems. Canada was pleased to note growing support for this approach at the last session of the Legal Sub-Committee.

Considerable progress was also made during the past year on the question of the legal implications of remote sensing of the earth from space. At the Fifteenth Session of the Legal Sub-Committee five common elements identified at the Fourteenth Session were converted into draft principles relating to the following issues: purposes and objectives of remote sensing, applicability of international law, international cooperation and participation, protection of the environment and technical assistance. In addition, three further common elements were identified: the role of international organizations, information on natural disasters and a duty to avoid detrimental uses of remote sensing. In spite of this relative success, there are still basic differences between States which will require resolution before any meaningful set of principles can be drafted. Substantial disagreement exists between the United States and most European countries on the one hand, and several developing countries and the Soviet Union on the other, on whether and how sensed states could protect themselves from acquisition and release of information acquired by the sensing state which could be detrimental to the interests of the sensed state. Following a careful and thorough review of Canada's national experience and of the international legal implications of remote sensing, Canada, in the last session of the Legal Sub-Committee, advanced a series of propositions designed to reflect a recognition of the need to safeguard national interests without creating obstacles to the maximum cooperative utilization of this promising technology. The underlying objective would be to develop an international legal regime for remote sensing which would be cautionary without being stifling. Canada believes these propositions will help to provide a basis for further progress at the next session of the Legal Sub-Committee.